

METHOD OF INSTALLING AN EDGE PIECE
ON A BATTERY PLATE AND APPARATUS FOR PERFORMING SAME

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for placing an edge piece on a battery
plate includes bending a thin strip of bendable plastic
material into an open top, U-shaped channel. The channel
is then cut into an edge piece having a length which is
substantially equal to the edge of the battery plate
10 which is to be covered. The edge piece is supported with
this open top oriented towards a battery plate that is
transported toward it in a manner such that the battery
plate edge will be inserted into it. Once the edge of
the battery plate has been inserted into the edge piece
15 the edge piece is released so that the battery plate can
be carried out of the apparatus. An apparatus for
accomplishing this includes a feed mechanism which
transports the strip of bendable plastic material. A
bending mechanism forms this strip into the open top,
20 U-shaped channel. The channel is then fully inserted
into an assembly station where a first sensor stops the
feed mechanism and a cutter cuts the channel into the
proper-sized edge piece. An in-feed conveyor transports
a battery plate toward the edge piece, and a support
25 mechanism supports the edge piece while the edge of the
battery plate is inserted into it. The support mechanism
then releases the edge piece so that it can travel out of
the insertion station with the battery plate. A second
sensor restarts the feed mechanism once the battery plate
30 is completely out of the assembly station.